

97920 million tonnes of proved, 118992 million tonnes of indicated and 38260 million tonnes as inferred category of coal resources.

(b) and (c) Under the present import policy of the Government, coal is placed under Open General License and can be imported by any person subject to payment of import duties. Various types of coal and coke are imported in the country by and large from Indonesia, South Africa, Australia and China by consumers to supplement the limited indigenous availability of low ash superior grade coking and non-coking coal for use by blending with indigenous coal and also on environmental considerations and considerations of location-specific landed cost of coal. Details of coal import for the last three years, are given as under:

(Source: Provisional Coal Statistics: 2005-06 by Coal Controllers Organisation, Kolkata)						Quantity in Million Tonnes and Value in Million Rupees		
Year	Coking Coal		Non Coking Coal		Coke	Total (Coal & Coke)		
	Qty	Value	Qty	Value		Qty	Value	Qty
2004-05	16.925	72432	12.025	30228	2.841	41040	31.791	143700
2005-06 (Prov.)	17.114	93398	19.755	49864	2.563	20538	39.432	163800

(d) Comparison of indigenous coal could be made with imported coal in terms of landed energy price, which is the price per unit of energy of coal (Rupees per million Kilo Calories) at a specific location and is worked out in terms of landed price of coal (in Rupees per Tonne) and the Gross Calorific value of coal (in Kilo Calories per Kilogram)

Dedicated coal blocks for Merchant Power Plants

273. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the proposed Merchant Power Plants, planned by the Ministry of energy would have dedicated coal blocks and coal linkage so that the uninterrupted generation of power is maintained;

(b) whether the price of coal blocks, etc. would depend on market forces or a fixed price for a per-determined period would be agreed upon; and

(c) whether smaller collieries in Vidarbha region would also be considered for such an allocation to the proposed Merchant Power Plants?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COAL (DR. DASARI NARAYANA RAO): (a) In terms of the extant legal framework, a company engaged in generation of power is eligible to undertake coal mining operations for the purpose of captive use only. Therefore, merchant power plants also would be eligible to get coal blocks for captive use or linkage, provided they fulfil other requirements as per the extant guidelines in force.

(b) No price is charged at present on allocation of coal blocks.

(c) Earmarking of coal blocks for power generation would depend upon the extent and grade of coal reserves, mine capacity etc.

Poor performance of players

274. SHRI ABU ASIM AZMI: Will the Minister of YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are well aware about the poor performance of the players most particularly cricket and hockey these days;

(b) if so, who are responsible for selecting the weak and unable players for such international games and what action is being taken against them for such a favouritism; and

(c) what efforts are being made by Government to improve the performance capacity of the players for international games?

THE MINISTER OF YOUTH AFFAIRS AND SPORTS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Government is aware of and shares the concerns being expressed about India's performance in various international sports event, including cricket and hockey.

(b) The responsibility for the development of sports disciplines, and the selection of sportspersons/teams for participation in international events, rests primarily with the National Sports Federations (NSFs) which are autonomous registered bodies. While Government is not directly involved in the process of team selection etc., Government have nominated